

CITY OF BRAWLEY OCTOBER 19, 2021

2021 Utility User Tax Contingency Plan



UTILITY USER TAX TIMELINE



HISTORY OF THE UTILITY USER TAX





First adopted in 1991

- Rate has varied up to 5%
- Currently at 4%
- Renewed 7 times
- Expires on May 31,

Used to fund essential city services

 Police, fire, parks, community facilities, administration, libraries, recreation programs

Annual revenue is \$1,900,000

- 9% of total General Fund revenues
- 17% of General Fund tax revenues

UUT revenue is 100% locally collected and remitted to the City

- Oversight by external independent audits
- Protected from State takeaways
- Locally controlled for City services

HOW DOES BRAWLEY COMPARE TO OTHER AGENCIES?

- Brawley is a full-service city
 - Police, fire, airport, water, waste water, library
- UUT rate for Brawley is 4%
 - There are 162 UUT's in California
 - Other UUT rates range from 1% to 11%
- UUT rate is applied to
 - Water/Wastewater
 - Electricity
 - Gas
 - Cable Television
 - Landline Phone Services
 - Most other agencies also include other Telecommunications
 - Cell phone and internet based services

















IF APPROVED, HOW WOULD UTILITY BILLS CHANGE?

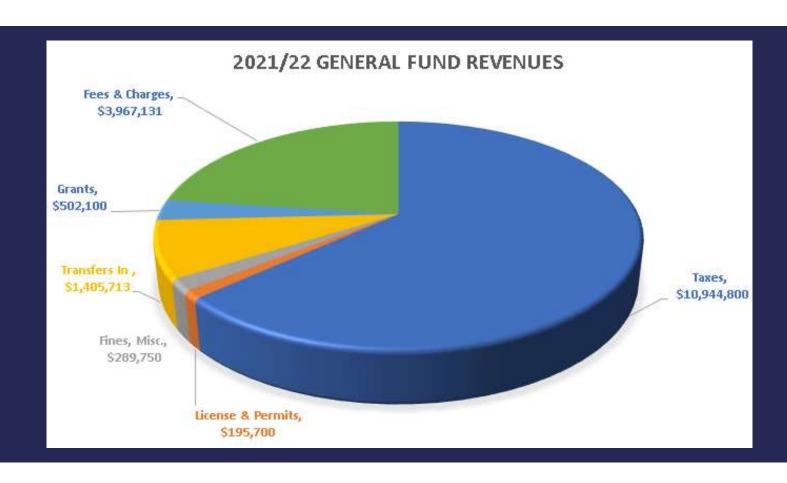
Utility Bill	Change
Electricity	No Change
Water/Wastewater	No Change
Natural Gas	No Change
Trash	No Change
Landline Telephone	No Change
Cable Television	No Change
Cell Phone	4% tax would be added
Streaming Video Services	4% tax would be added

- Measure U is NOT a new tax
- The 4% UUT already exist on most utility services
- The tax would NOT increase, therefore there would be no financial impact on most utility bills
- Modernized services that have been added as alternatives to landline telephones or cable television would be added to the tax over time

CITY SERVICES SUPPORTED BY THE UUT

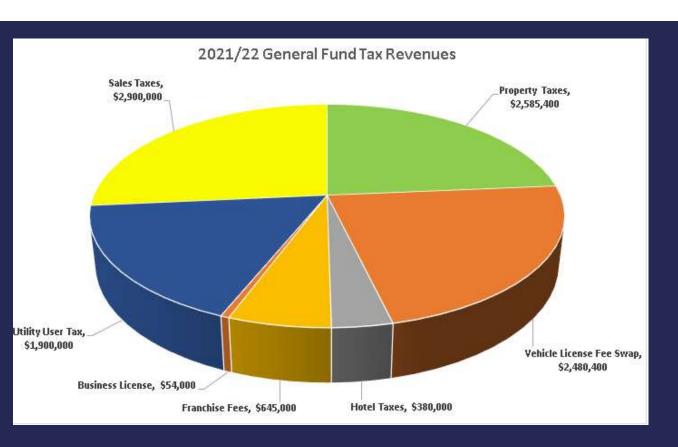
Enterprise Funds	Water	Wastewater	Airport	Police	Fire
Supported by UUT	Parks	Recreation	Library	Senior Center	Administration
Contract Services	Finance	Information Technology	Human Resources	Planning	Engineering
Brawley is considered a full service City.	Development	Animal Control	Building Maintenance	Trash & Street Sweeping	Public Transportation

WHERE DOES THE GENERAL FUND REVENUE COME FROM?



A FOCUS ON TAX REVENUES





Sales Taxes

- Rate 7.75%
- City retains 1% of the revenue
- State keeps 6%, Transportation Commissions 0.75%

Property Taxes

- City retains 22% or 22 cents for every \$1 paid
- Schools 59%, County 12%, Special Districts 7%

Utility User Taxes

- Rate 4%
- City retains 100% of the revenue

GENERAL FUND REVENUE REDUCTIONS IF UUT IS NOT APPROVED

UUT Revenue Impact

• \$1,900,000 reduction

2021/22 Current Budget		
Adopted Revenues	\$17,305,194	
UUT Reduction	(1,900,000)	
Other Revenues	(169,000)	
Revised Revenues	\$15,236,194	

Other Revenue Impacts

Type of Revenue	Reduction
Swimming Pool Fees	\$5,000
Recreation Registration Fees	7,000
Recreation League Fees	25,000
Interest Income	4,000
Grant Programs	125,000
TOTAL	\$169,000

Total required expense reductions would be \$2,069 000

HOW CAN THE CITY INCREASE REVENUES?



- General taxes are for all city services
 - New/changes to taxes require voter approval
- Grants are not guaranteed
 - Fluctuate in size and availability from year to year
- The city cannot charge more than it costs to provide services or programs
 - Increased fees require a fee study and City Council approval







RECREATION & LIONS CENTER



Revenue Collected	Total
Summer Programs	\$3,000
Swimming Pool Fees	5,000
Rents & Royalties	5,000
Recreation Registration	7,000
Recreation League	25,000
Other Revenues	109,177
TOTAL	\$154,177

Operational Expens	e	Total
Personnel		\$355,078
Operational		253,522
	TOTAL	\$608,600





POLICE, DISPATCH & GRAFFITI ABATEMENT SERVICES



Revenue Collected	Total
School District SRO	\$21,000
HIDTA Grant	47,000
POST Reimbursement	50,000
COPS Hiring Grant	60,000
Dispatch Service Fees	88,500
Other Revenues	100,000
Sales & Use Taxes	160,000
TOTAL	\$526,500

Operational Expense	Total
Personnel	\$4,820,016
Operational	1,191,334
TC	OTAL \$6,011,350

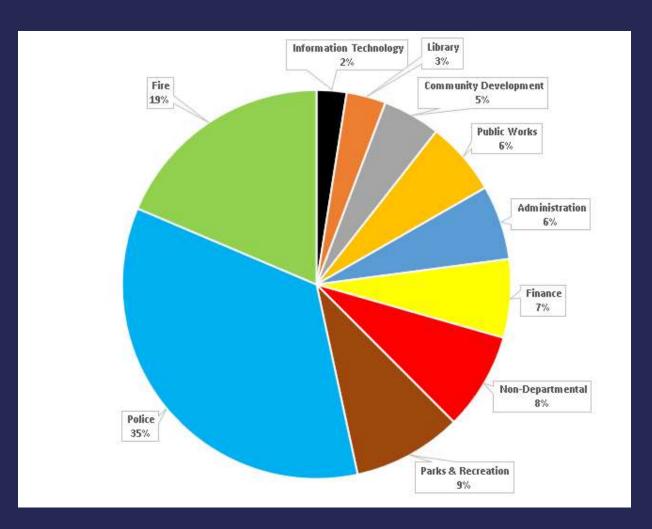


CONTINGENCY PLAN DETAILS



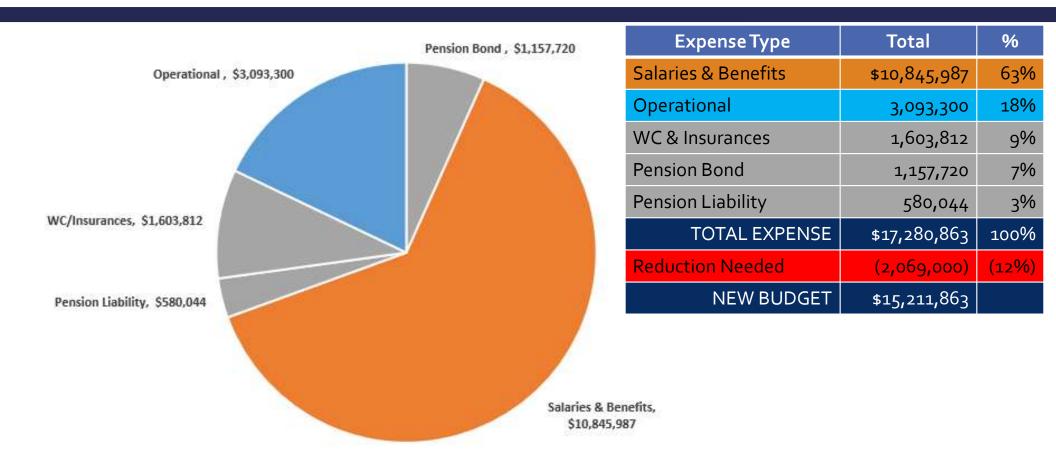






Department	Budget
Police & Graffiti Abatement	\$6,011,350
Fire	3,215,768
Parks & Recreation	1,569,958
Non-Departmental	1,398,253
Finance & Utility Billing	1,127,594
Administration	1,070,273
Public Works	1,061,686
Community Development	828,986
Library	567,140
Information Technology	429,855
TOTAL	\$17,280,863

2021/22 General Fund Expenses



2021/22 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES

OPERATIONAL REDUCTIONS ACROSS DEPARTMENTS

Expense Category	Amount of Reduction
Contributions & Memberships	\$12,250
Travel and Training	45,400
Fuel	52,500
Janitorial Services	72,400
Other line items	185,612
TOTAL	\$368,162

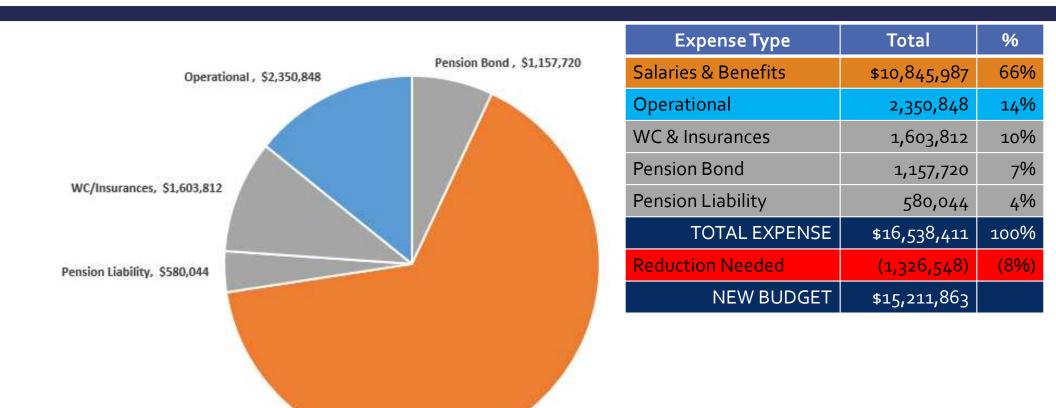
- Untrained staff at a time when
 State mandates continue to rise
- Career advancement and cross training are minimized
- Professional memberships offer
 - Guidance on new regulations
 - Voting, delegate and board member seats
 - Support to avoid duplicating efforts
 - Examples of best practices, tested programs, and new innovative ideas
 - Discounted training events
 - Recruitment opportunities

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL REDUCTIONS

Professional & Technical Services Reduced by \$374,290

- Information Technology
- Legal Services
- Engineering
- Professional recording of Council meetings
- Pest Control
- Consulting Services sales taxes and UUT

Expense Category	Reduction
Contributions & Memberships	\$12,250
Travel and Training	45,400
Fuel	52,500
Janitorial Services	72,400
Other line items	185,612
Professional & Technical	374,290
TOTAL	\$742,452



2021/22 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES AMENDED

Salaries & Benefits, \$10,845,987

PERSONNEL REDUCED, ELIMINATED, RECLASSIFIED

- 3 to 6 Full-Time Public Safety Officers reduced
- Reserve Fire Fighters eliminated
- 3 Full-Time Fire positions reclassified
- All Temporary Positions eliminated
- Nearly all Part-Time Positions eliminated





Public Safety Impacts

- Increased overtime
- Increased response times
- Respond to life safety calls only
- Difficult to recruit when turnover occurs
- Fire station 2 closure
- Fire inspections deferred

PERSONNEL REDUCED, ELIMINATED, RECLASSIFIED CONTINUED

- 4 Management Positions eliminated, reclassified
- 8 Full-Time Parks, Programs and Services reduced
- Nearly all Part-time Positions eliminated
- All Temporary Positions eliminated



Service and Program Impacts

- Increased overtime
- Increased response times
- Difficult to recruit when turnover occurs
- Inability to provide all current programs and services
- Closure of public facilities



SEVERELY REDUCED <u>OR</u> ELIMINATED SERVICES

Graffiti Recreational Lions Center Library Senior Center Abatement Programs Pool Administration Building Code Alyce Gereaux **Animal Control** Inspections Splash Pad Building Enforcement Park Park Literacy **Utility Billing** Finance Maintenance Program Restrooms

OTHER CONSEQUENCES

- Increase in unemployment claims and costs
- Lowered employee morale
- Additional turnover in staff
- Labor re-negotiations would be required
- Implementation of full-cost recovery to offer city programs
- Inability to volunteer and help neighboring agencies
- Inability to host or attend events when requested

WHAT ARE EMPLOYEES SAYING?

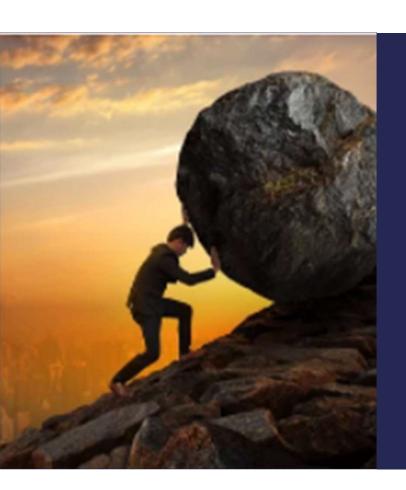
- We already have limited resources
- We are burnt out with limited staffing levels
- · We can't keep trying to do more with less
- We want to provide more and new programs but don't have the funding to do so
- Departments help one another to get the job done.
- I proudly serve the City of Brawley
- I grew up in Brawley and want to see it prosper
- My children go to school and play sports in Brawley
- My family is in Brawley



CURRENT MOMENTUM



A DIFFICULT CLIMB TO RECOVERY



- Impacts will be real and start quickly
- Evaluate additional efficiencies or outsourcing
- Create a community Finance Committee
- Explore other tax revenue opportunities
 - Transaction and Use Sales Tax
 - Cannabis Tax
 - Hotel Tax Increase
 - Business License Fee Increase
- Implement full cost recovery of services
- Temporarily use some reserves to postpone further reductions



QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, CONCERNS

For more information on this presentation or the Utility User Tax ballot Measure U contact 760-344-8941 or kromero@brawley-ca.gov